

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An electronic appliance implemented method comprising:  
3       (a) ascertaining a current location/location type of the electronic appliance;  
4       (b) identifying an appliance personality from a plurality of available personalities  
5       based, at least in part, on the ascertained current location/location type of the electronic  
appliance; and

6       (c) provisioning the identified appliance personality on the electronic appliance.

1       2. The method of claim 1, wherein provisioning the appliance personality comprises:  
2       selecting and providing a user interface and an application set from a plurality of  
3       available user interfaces and application sets to reflect the identified appliance personality.

1       3. The method of claim 1, wherein ascertaining the position of the electronic appliance  
2       comprises:

3       (a.1) receiving one or more signals containing information from a corresponding one or  
4       more sources;

5       (a.2) extracting information embedded within the received one or more signals; and

6       (a.3) determining the current location/location type of the electronic appliance from the  
7       information associated with the received one or more signals.

1    4.     The method of claim 3, wherein the one or more sources are satellites designed to provide  
2     a global positioning system (GPS) signal.

1    5.     The method of claim 3, wherein one or more sources are cellular communication  
2     transmitters designed to provide a plurality of control signals containing information regarding a  
3     location of the transmitters and a timestamp of when the received signal(s) were transmitted.

1    6.     The method of claim 3, wherein the current location/location type of the electronic  
2     appliance is calculated using a triangulation technique.

1    7.     The method of claim 3, wherein the current location/location type of the electronic  
2     appliance is determined by cross referencing a calculated relative position against a database of  
3     locations.

1    8.     The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities are pre-  
2     programmed in the appliance and reside in an interface database.

1    9.     The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities are stored in one  
2     or more memory cards which are removably coupled to the electronic appliance.

10.    An electronic appliance comprising:

2     a receiver, coupled to an antenna, to receive signals including information;

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4 a processor, coupled to the receiver, to determine a location of the electronic appliance

from the received signals; and

5 a storage medium having stored therein a plurality of processor executable instructions

6 for selectively implementing a plurality of appliance personalities for the electronic appliance,

7 wherein an appropriate appliance personality from the plurality of appliance personality is

8 selected and provisioned by the processor based, at least in part, on the determined location of

9 the electronic appliance.

11. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the storage medium is removably coupled  
2 to the electronic appliance.

12. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the storage medium has stored therein a  
2 plurality of instructions for a plurality of user interfaces and application sets which are  
3 selectively executed by the processor to provision appliance personalities.

13. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the antenna is a global positioning system  
2 (GPS) antenna.

14. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the antenna is a radio frequency (RF)  
2 antenna.

15. The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the antenna is a photovoltaic cell operative  
2 to receive infrared (IR) signals.

1    16.    The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities  
2    includes a personality unique to a home environment.

1    17.    The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities  
2    includes a personality unique to an office operating environment.

1    18.    The electronic appliance of claim 10, wherein the plurality of appliance personalities  
2    includes a personality tailored for a mobile operating environment.

19. A storage medium having stored therein a plurality of executable instructions which,  
when executed, implement an appliance personality provisioning system having a number of  
functions, including a location identification function which determines a current location of a  
host appliance, a personality selection function which selects an appliance personality from a  
plurality of appliance personalities available to the host appliance based, at least in part, on the  
identified current location of the host appliance, and a function to provision a selected  
personality on the host appliance.

1    20.    The storage medium of claim 19, wherein the plurality of executable instructions further  
2    include instructions to implement a plurality of user interfaces and a plurality of application sets  
3    corresponding to the plurality of available appliance personalities.